

consideration. Accordingly, claims 11, 12, 20 and 21 are pending.

The Examiner rejected claim 20 stating that such claim is directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. Specifically, the Examiner stated that claim 20 claims the new recitation of "connector being disposed adjacent an outlet of the storage container and comprising an identifier indicating a type and quantity of the solution ingredients, said identifier being arranged to indicate a position of the connector to determine incomplete connection to the dialysis machine." Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

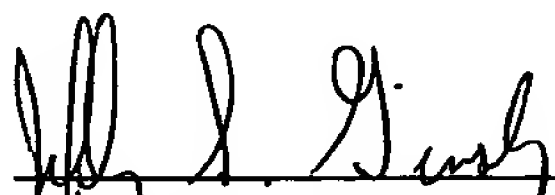
Applicants submit that claim 20 incorporates the subject matter of previously canceled claim 10 and claims subject matter to which applicants are entitled. During the telephone conference on March 12, 2001, the Examiner agreed to reopen the present application and review claim 20 on its merits.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the final rejection is requested. It is respectfully submitted that the all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons set forth in the response filed September 29, 2000, and prompt notification thereof is requested. If for any reason the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would advance prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

  
Jeffrey S. Ginsberg  
Reg. No. 36,148

KENYON & KENYON  
One Broadway  
New York, NY 10004  
Telephone: (212) 425-7200  
Facsimile: (212) 425-5288